

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
STATESVILLE DIVISION

AUG - 1 2023

US DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NC

DOCKET NO. 5:22-CR-00020

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) CONSENT ORDER AND
 v.) JUDGMENT OF FORFEITURE
)
 STEPHEN ALLEN HILL)

WHEREAS, the defendant, STEPHEN ALLEN HILL, has entered into a plea agreement (incorporated by reference herein) with the United States and has voluntarily pleaded guilty pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 to one or more criminal offenses under which forfeiture may be ordered;

WHEREAS, the defendant and the United States stipulate and agree that the property described below constitutes property derived from or traceable to proceeds of the defendant's offense(s) herein; property involved in the offenses, or any property traceable to such property; and/or property used in any manner to facilitate the commission of such offense(s); or substitute property as defined by 21 U.S.C. § 853(p) and Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(e); and is therefore subject to forfeiture pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2253, provided, however, that such forfeiture is subject to any and all third party claims and interests, pending final adjudication herein; the defendant waives his interest, if any, in the property and agrees to the forfeiture of such interest;

WHEREAS, the defendant herein waives the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2 regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment against defendant;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(1) & (c)(2), the Court finds that there is the requisite nexus between the property and the offense(s) to which the defendant has pleaded guilty and that the defendant has a legal or possessory interest in the property;

WHEREAS, the defendant withdraws any claim previously submitted in response to an administrative forfeiture or civil forfeiture proceeding concerning any of the property described below. If the defendant has not previously submitted such a claim, the defendant hereby waives all right to do so. If any administrative forfeiture or civil forfeiture proceeding concerning any of the property described below has previously been stayed, the defendant hereby consents to a lifting of the stay and consents to forfeiture;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the **following property** is forfeited to the United States:

- **WD Elements external HDD, SN: WX51D19C1A1H;**
- **Dell XPS 8700 desktop computer, ST: JM1B942;**
- **Dell Inspiron 15 laptop computer, ST: 41B0782;**
- **Toshiba 3 TB external HDD, SN: 15H6ALWGSU17; and**
- **SimpleTech 1 TB external HDD, SN: 0913523010004267501.**

The United States Marshal and/or other property custodian for the investigative agency is authorized to take possession and maintain custody of the above-described tangible property.

If and to the extent required by Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(6), 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), and/or other applicable law, the United States shall publish notice and provide direct written notice of this forfeiture.

Any person, other than the defendant, asserting any legal interest in the property may, within thirty days of the publication of notice or the receipt of notice, whichever is earlier, petition the court for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the alleged interest.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(3), upon entry of this Order of Forfeiture, the United States Attorney's Office is authorized to conduct any discovery needed to identify, locate or dispose of the property, including depositions, interrogatories, requests for production of documents and to issue subpoenas, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 45.

[The rest of this page intentionally left blank.]

Following the Court's disposition of all timely petitions filed, a final order of forfeiture shall be entered, as provided by Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c)(2). If no third-party files a timely petition, this order shall become the final order and judgment of forfeiture, as provided by Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c)(2), and the United States shall have clear title to the property and shall dispose of the property according to law. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(4)(A), the defendant consents that this order shall be final as to defendant upon filing.

SO AGREED:



BENJAMIN BAIN-CREED
Assistant United States Attorney



STEPHEN ALLEN HILL
Defendant



SEAN P. DEVEREUX
Attorney for Defendant

Signed: 8/11, 2023



Hon. Kenneth D. Bell
United States District Judge
Western District of North Carolina